

Amendment

Application No. 10/036,994 (09792909-5279)

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REMARKS

Claims 1-27 are pending in the above-identified application. Claims 1 and 5 were rejected. Claims 2-4 and 6 were objected to. With this Amendment, claims 2-6, 21, and 24-26 were amended, and claim 1 was cancelled. Accordingly, claims 2-27 are pending in the above-identified application. Applicants gratefully acknowledge the allowability of claims 2-4 and 6-27.

Section 103

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the rejection of claim 5 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over McCarthy.

Claim 5 has been amended to depend directly from claim 3 which was previously identified as being allowable. Therefore claim 5 is allowable and Applicants respectfully request the Section 103 rejection be withdrawn.

Examiner's Remarks

The specification and claims 21 and 24-26 have been amended to replace "sacrifice" with "sacrificial" according to the Examiner's suggestion.

CONCLUSION

If the Examiner believes that there is any issue which could be resolved by a telephone or personal interview, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contract the undersigned attorney at the telephone number listed below.

Amendment

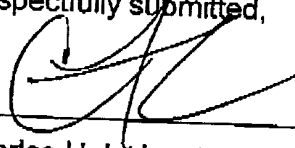
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As it is believed the application is in condition for allowance, favorable action and Notice of Allowance are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: 9-19-03

By: 
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